

THE GENERATION OF IMAGES

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A system for generating animated images comprises a data encoder for compressing data relating to the animated image to be generated using a predetermined compression format. A transparency information component is embodied in the data, the transparency information component providing information relating to a degree of transparency of a part of the image. An identification component is contained in the data that identifies to a data decoder the compression format that has been used to compress the data.